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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/867,680	05/31/2001	Martin John Millmore	19111.0056	7210
23517	7590	02/22/2005	EXAMINER	
SWIDLER BERLIN SHEREFF FRIEDMAN, LLP			VU, KIEU D	
3000 K STREET, NW			ART UNIT	
BOX IP			PAPER NUMBER	
WASHINGTON, DC 20007			2173	

DATE MAILED: 02/22/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/867,680	MILLMORE ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Kieu D Vu	2173	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-5,7 and 8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-5,7 and 8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Claim Objections***

1. It appears that claim 8 contains typographical errors. "the mouse" and "the mouse icon" should be rewritten as "a mouse" and "a mouse icon".

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 5 and 7-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The term "and/or" in the first line of claim 5 makes claim 5 vague and indefinite since the scope of the claim is not defined.

Claims 7-8 depend on claim 5, therefore claims 7-8 are rejected on the same rationale as applied to claim 5

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

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5. Claims 1, 3, 5, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Brittan et al ("Brittan", USP 6199078).

Regarding claim 1, Brittan teaches a system for enabling entry and display data in a database, the system comprising a processor for controlling the display of a form (Fig. 4) (col. 2, lines 55-58) having a number of data fields corresponding to data items stored or to be stored on a database (fields capable of storing a plurality of values) (col. 2, lines 55-58), and a store for storing, for at least one data field, information enabling attributes relating to a data item stored on the database corresponding to the data field to be displayed upon user command while the form continues to be displayed (Fig. 12); wherein the at least one data field corresponds to a data item and the stored information defines one or more data items stored on the database other than the data item corresponding to the at least one data field (col. 5, lines 22-35) (col. 12, lines 26-35).

Regarding claim 5, Brittan teaches a system for enabling entry and display data in a database, the system comprising a processor for controlling the display of a form (Fig. 4) (col. 2, lines 55-58) having a number of data fields corresponding to data items stored or to be stored on a database (col. 2, lines 55-58), and a store for storing, for at least one data field, information defining a computation to be performed based on the data values obtained from the database wherein results of the computation are to be displayed upon user command while the form continued to be displayed (col. 12, lines 26-35) (see Formula Lists, Fig. 12).

Regarding claims 3 and 7, Brittan teaches the providing a user interface to enable a user to define information which is stored in the store corresponding to the at least one data field (col. 3, lines 50-55) (line 64 of col. 3 to line 6 of col. 4).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 4 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brittan and Johnson (USP 5721847).

Regarding claims 4 and 8, Brittan does not teach that the user command is a right click of the mouse. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Johnson. Johnson teaches a method for inserting a selected graphic control within a spreadsheet which comprising the opening a drop-down menu upon user's right-mouse click (col 7, lines 23-27). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Brittan and Johnson before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface system taught by Brittan to include the opening a drop-down menu upon user's right-mouse click taught by Johnson with the motivation being to enable the user to easily and conveniently activate command by a single mouse click.

8. Applicant's arguments filed 08/27/04 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

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9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kieu D. Vu. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM at 571-272-4057.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca, can be reached at 571-272-4048.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

703-872-9306

and / or:

571-273-4057 (use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper / amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions).

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kieu D. Vu

Patent Examiner

